

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

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1. (Currently Amended) A device for clamping and ablating cardiac tissue comprising:
- a first handle member;
- a second handle member;
- first and second ~~meeting opposed~~ jaw members associated with the first and second handle members, respectively, the jaw members being movable by the handle members between a first open position and a second clamped position ~~in which they are substantially parallel~~;
- a first ~~elongated~~ electrical conductive member carried by the first jaw member;
- a second ~~elongated~~ electrical conductive member carried by the second jaw member;
- ~~each jaw at least one jaw including a first portion extending in one direction relative to the handle and a second portion extending in a different direction, the elongated conductive member of each jaw extending continuously along at least one of the jaw portions surface for engaging tissue clamped between the jaws, the surface comprising insulative material, an aperture extending through the insulative material and the respective conductive member of such jaw being carried in the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue clamped between the jaws.~~

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2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein at least one of the conductive members is electrodes are between approximately 3 to 8 cm ~~when~~ in length and approximately 0.12 to 0.6 mm in width.

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein at least one of the ~~electrodes~~ conductive members comprises gold-plated copper.

4. (Currently Amended) A tissue grasping apparatus comprising:

~~first and second grasping jaws, the grasping jaws being relatively moveable between open and closed positions, the jaws being substantially parallel in the closed position; each jaw including an elongated electrode and a curved clamping surface in face-to-face opposed relation with the electrode and curved clamping surface of the other jaw, the elongated electrode of each at least one jaw defining an inner lumen extending continuously along the jaw and being curved to generally the same curvature as the clamping surface; the curved clamping surfaces of the jaws comprising an insulating material and the opposed face-to-face electrodes being connectible to a power source for providing an electrical current through tissue clamped between the electrodes.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein  
~~the parallel grasping jaws spaced apart at least one of the~~  
~~electrodes is~~ between approximately 3 to 8 cm in length and  
approximately 0.12 to 0.6 mm in width.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein  
at least one of the electrodes comprises gold-plated copper.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~4~~ in  
which each jaw includes a surface for engaging tissue clamped  
between the jaws, the clamping facing surfaces of the respective  
~~at least one~~ jaws each comprising comprises insulative material,  
a ~~slot~~ an aperture extending through the insulative material  
along the jaw and the respective ~~conductive member~~ electrode of  
each such jaw being carried in the jaw and conductive of  
electrical energy through the ~~slot~~ aperture to tissue clamped  
between the jaws.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 9 in which  
the aperture comprises a slot extending along at least a portion  
of such jaw and the electrode conductive member of each such jaw  
extends through the slot of such jaw.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ‡ 4 in which at least one of the ~~conductive members~~ electrodes defines a generally annular cross-sectional shape.

14. (New) The device of claim 1 in which at least one of the conductive members defines an inner lumen.

15. (New) The device of claim 1 in which at least one of the conductive members defines a generally annular cross-sectional shape.

16. (New) The device of claim 1 in which the aperture comprises a slot extending along at least a portion of the jaw.

17. (New) The device of claim 1 in which the other jaw includes a surface for engaging tissue clamped between the jaws, the surface comprising insulative material, an aperture extending through the insulative material and the respective conductive member of such other jaw being carried in the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue clamped between the jaws.

18. (New) The device of claim 17 in which the aperture in each jaw comprises a slot extending along at least a portion of the jaw and the conductive member in each jaw is elongated.

19. (New) The device of claim 18 wherein the conductive member of each jaw extends through the respective slot of such jaw.

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 4 in which an electrode of each jaw defines an inner lumen.

21. (New) Tissue ablation apparatus comprising: first and second jaws, the jaws being relatively movable between an open position for receiving tissue therebetween and a closed position for compressively engaging against tissue received therebetween, each jaw including a tissue engaging surface, an elongated aperture in the tissue engaging surface and an elongated electrically conductive member carried by the jaw and conductive of electrical energy through the aperture to tissue engaged between the jaws, the elongated conductive member of each jaw defining an inner lumen.